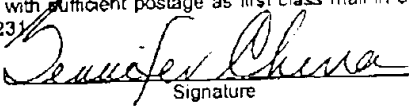


CASE CLV-31987/WEJ 1469

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING		
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231		
Jennifer China Type or print name	 Signature	March 18, 2003 Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF
CARLSON ET AL.EXAMINER: R. SARGENT
ART UNIT: 1711

APPLICATION NO: 09/892,345

FILED: JUNE 26, 2001

FOR: POLYURETHANE HYDROGEL CONTACT LENS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

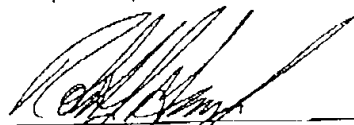
The Office Action of September 18, 2002 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on October 18, 2002. A five-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation in the amount of \$1960 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Patent and Trademark Dept.
One Health Plaza
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: March 18, 2003


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